

where more job strain was associated with worse cognitive function. A limitation of these findings is that these studies were conducted in countries with relatively favorable socioeconomic conditions such as the mainland U.S., Germany, France, and Sweden, and are therefore not generalizable to workers in countries like the commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Research on people living in Puerto Rico is especially important because socioeconomic and health related disparities ultimately affect their cognitive health outcomes. In addition to this, Puerto Rico has been slow to adopt U.S. policies like compulsory schooling for children which has resulted in a less educated population. There is evidence that suggests having less education may exacerbate negative changes associated with cognitive health. As a result of all these factors, Puerto Rican older adults may be prone to experiencing increased cognitive decline. The primary objective of the current study was to investigate how job strain relates to change in late-life-2(la)9(t)0

first began between 2002 and 2003 and the second was from 2006 to 2007. There was a total of 1,632 participants whose cognition, occupational history, and job strain were measured at baseline and at follow-up.

Cognition was assessed using the Mini-Mental Caban (MMC) which gauged numerous cognitive processes (i.e., time-orientation, verbal memory, visual memory, visuospatial/executive function, abstraction, comprehension). Occupational history was documented as the longest held gainful occupation of at least 10 years. Job strain

explored by evaluating the interaction between job strain indicators and educational attainment. To supplement this analysis, gender was assessed as a potential moderator between job strain and cognitive decline.

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The findings suggest that lower job control and greater job strain may contribute to the cognitive decline of older adults in Puerto Rico. This association, however, was found to be substantially moderated by educational attainment. Specifically, job strain indicators were most strongly associated with cognitive decline in those with at least 8 years of education. These individuals experienced greater cognitive decline when having heightened job strain and low job control. This emphasizes the influence of the work environment in those with more education.

A supplemental analysis was conducted to test whether the results could be replicated when assessing job strain indicators in relation to cognitive performance at follow-up only. The relationship between job strain, job control, and cognitive performance were consistent with the results from the primary analysis and